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fileMHQ-2125  
18 November 1982  
Okinawa Bureau, FBIS

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Dear Jim:

Subject: Special Immigrant Status

I don't see the situation you mention as a new question. In fact, it was on my mind when I discussed the issue with Brathwaite in April.

The basic subject I addressed was: How do you apply for PRA status with some hope of getting it approved? The fact that someone has a dependent graduating from school (and who wants to enter the labor market to compete with a U.S. citizen in the midst of a recession) does not change anything. That situation, in itself, certainly is not going to "enhance" the chance of someone getting PRA approval. But it won't hurt if there is a strong case.

As for your conversation with the Consul General, I indicated in my memo of 15 April, in paragraph five, that the employee should not mention the question of how long he will be working overseas.

It all basically comes down to the point that you must make a very convincing argument to get PRA approval. Why couldn't you state in the recommendation that the individual has children, who because of the U.S. Government employment of the sponsor, had to complete his/her education at U.S. government schools in Okinawa and therefore would be unable to function in his/her previous home environment (Taiwan) because of a lack of knowledge of Chinese. This would be part of the business of arguing that the employee must be granted PRA status because of the peculiar nature of his employment with this Agency. In other words, the "can't go home again" business.

I think all of my points of 15 April are still valid: We must make a strong argument based on the things I mention. The Consul General doesn't know any more than I learned from Brathwaite. We simply have to make a strong argument based on our peculiar circumstances.

Suggest you try a draft letter and send me a copy to take a look at. I might have some suggestions for strengthening it.

As I indicated before, this is something that must be looked at on a case-by-case basis. I don't think the Consul General can generalize; that was the thrust of the message from Brathwaite.

  
ACTING DIRECTOR

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